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Message Text

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51
ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 EB-11 DOTE-00 AID-20 TRSE-00 IO-14

PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15 IGA-02 CIAE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00

RSC-01 OMB-01 DRC-01 /093 W
---------- 072200
R 190840Z SEP 74
FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1248

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FOR USDOC BIC/OED/MEPD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: BEXP, SN
SUBJ: MAJOR EXPORT PROJECTS PROGRAM, QUARTERLY
PROJECT LIST UPDATE--MASS RAPID TRANSIT
SYSTEM, SINGAPORE

REF: STATE A-9633

1. CASE TR-32, MASS RAPID TRANSIT, STATUS: FIRST
ECONOMIC ANALYSIS PHASE OF MRT STUDY BY WILBUR SMITH
PARSONS, ETC. HAS BEEN COMPLETED. PHASE I PROVIDES
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SELECTION OF ONE MASS TRANSIT SYSTEM
AMONG SEVERAL PROPOSED ALTERNATIVES. THE RECOMMENDED
SYSTEM CALLS FOR A COMBINATION RAIL RAPID TRANSIT AND
BUS SYSTEM. THE RAIL COMPONENT CONSISTS OF TWO LINES,
24 MILES LONG IN TOTAL, WITH 9.7 MILES UNDERGROUND. AN
EXTENSIVE BUS NETWORK WOULD INTERFACE WITH THE RAIL
SYSTEM. PRELIMINARY COST OF RECOMMENDED SYSTEM
APPROXIMATELY US$300 MILLION.

2. GOS HAS DECIDED TO MAKE FURTHER DETAILED STUDY
OF ENGINEERING, ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL FEASIBILITY.
OBJECTIVES OF PHASE II INCLUDE SOIL TESTS ALONG PROPOSED
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RAILWAY ROUTE AND UPDATE OF ESTIMATES OF CONSTRUCTION

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COSTS TO AN ACCURACY OF 20 PERCENT. PHASE II SHOULD TAKE SIX MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

3. EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS THAT GOS AND IBRD AS EXECUTING AGENT FOR UNDP HAVE AGREED TO TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR PHASE II. TENDERS NOT INVITED AND EMBASSY BELIEVES THERE WILL BE NONE, AND FURTHER WORK WILL BE HANDLED BY PRESENT CONSULTANTS ON NEGOTIATED BASIS. THERE HAS BEEN NO REPEAT NO OFFICIAL PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT ON CONTRACTOR FOR PHASE II, HOWEVER, AND PROBABLY WILL BE NONE. LIKELIHOOD OF PRESENT CONSULTANTS CONTINUING WITH PHASE II IS, THEREFORE,SENSITIVE INFORMATION AT THIS STAGE AND SHOULD NOT REPEAT NOT BE MADE PUBLIC.
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Disposition Authority: cunninfx
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